

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 6 without prejudice.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for automatically disbursing a user's personal information [belonging to a user] to a requester [that is] authorized by the user by transmitting said user's personal information from a server computer operated by a service provider, said server computer coupled to a database, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing an account for the user with the server computer;

assigning an identifier to the user;

entering the user's personal information [belonging to the user], said user's personal information comprising at least one of a plurality of information objects;

assigning at least one of a plurality of security levels to each information object;

storing in the database the user identifier, the information object and the security level assigned to the information object;

receiving a request message from a requester, said request message comprising at least the user identifier;

retrieving from the database the information object pertaining to the user identifier; and

securely transmitting the information object to the requester.

Please add the following new claims.

7. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
generating an authorization key; and
providing the authorization key to a requester.

8. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of generating an authorization key comprises the steps of:

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selecting at least one set of information objects, the set of selected information objects comprising at least one piece of user's personal information; and
creating a key to authorize access of the selected set of information objects.

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9. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of generating an authorization key comprises the step of:
selecting the characteristics of a requester that can present the authorization key for information.

10. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the authorization key is encoded with at least one of a plurality of attributes or criteria.

11. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the at least one of a plurality of attributes includes an attribute of a requester who may present the authorization key for release of information.

12. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the at least one of a plurality of criteria includes a criterion to indicate the information that can be accessed by a requester with the authorization key.

13. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the at least one of a plurality of criteria includes a criterion to indicate how many times the authorization key can be used by the requester to obtain access, or the type of information that is accessible by a requester using that authorization key.

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14. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
altering the user's personal information; and
storing said altered personal information in the database.

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15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of transmitting further comprises the step of:

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designating an entity to receive said altered personal information;
optionally designating an effective date for said alteration; and
transmitting the altered personal information the designated entity.

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16. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of securely transmitting the information object comprises the step of:

transmitting the information object via a communication network to a device coupled to the communication network.

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17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the device is a printer coupled to the communication network directly via the Internet Printing Protocol.

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18. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of securely transmitting the information object further comprises the step of:

transmitting the information object via a secure E-mail or public key encryption.

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19. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the user's personal information includes the user's contact information; health-related information; medical, dental information, credit/employment information; insurance information, property-related information; personal demographic information; family medical history; biometric/genetic information; travel/hotel preferences; internet preferences; sartorial, fashion preferences; magazine, movies, book preferences; leisure preferences; preferences for billing or payment methods, or pleasure-related preferences.

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20. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
receiving an authorization key from the requester.

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21. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
authenticating the requester.

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22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a request

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message from the requester comprises the step of:

receiving a query for the user's personal information in a readily executable form.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a request message from the requester comprises the step of:

receiving a query for the user's personal information in a Structured Query Language format.

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24. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

periodically generating a report on the transmittal of the information.

25. (New) A method for automatically disbursing a user's personal information to a requesting party, the method comprising:

step for inputting the user's personal information, said user's personal information comprising at least one of a plurality of information objects;

step for associating with each information object at least one of a plurality of security clearance levels;

step for recording each information object and the associated security clearance levels;

step for inputting an authorization key to access the user's personal information;

step for determining a response message to be sent; and

step for outputting the response message.

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26. (New) Computer-executable program code stored on computer-readable medium, said code comprising:

code to store a user's personal information, said user's personal information comprising at least one of a plurality of information objects;

code to associate each information object with a first security clearance level;

code to receive a request message to access the user's personal information, said request message comprising an authorization key to access a first portion of the user's personal information, said authorization key indicative of a second security clearance